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PATENT

#18
Amdt (new)
10/17/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RE APPLICATION OF: Ishikawa, *et al.*

APPLICATION No.: 09/555,704

FILED: June 2, 2000

FOR: ENHANCED IMMUNOGEN FOR INACTIVATED VACCINE FOR
INFECTION WITH JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS VIRUSES AND
PROCESSES FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

EXAMINER: Brown

ART UNIT: 1648

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OCT 15 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Amendment after Final Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Box AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The present communication responds to the Office Action dated June 13, 2002 in the above-identified application. Please amend the application as follows.

In the Claims:

Please replace claims 1 and 2 with the following substitute claims:

1. (Twice Amended) An inactivated virus particle, as a reinforced immunogen, prepared from a culture of cells infected with virus belonging to a group of Japanese encephalitis viruses, wherein the process of preparation comprises a step of inactivation followed by a step of purification by physical means without chemical means, wherein a neutralizing antibody titer of the anti-serum obtained by immunization with the virus particles is about twice to about 10 times the neutralizing antibody titer of the anti-serum obtained by immunization with inactivated virus particles prepared from virus cultured in mouse brain.

2. (Twice Amended) A method for producing an inactivated virus particle, comprising culturing virus belonging to a group of Japanese encephalitis viruses in a cell line, inactivating the cell culture and then purifying the virus by physical means

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